

Meeting Summary of the SANBAG Board of Directors

San Bernardino Associated Governments ■ 1170 W. 3rd St., 2nd Floor, San Bernardino, CA 92410 ■ (909) 884-8276
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■ Draft 2008 Regional Transportation Plan presented

Alan Wapner, Ontario City Council Member and Chairman of SCAG's Transportation and Communications Committee, presented the SANBAG board with a power point overview of the Draft 2008 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Since previous board discussions on the RTP, two significant developments have occurred:

- 1) Consideration of the transportation revenue, travel demand, mode share, and growth impacts of significantly higher fuel costs throughout the planning period;
- 2) Separation of the environmental documentation for the RTP and the Regional Comprehensive Plan.

SANBAG Board Members noted the challenges in meeting the future transportation demands within the region. Inclusion of a federally-approved RTP is essential to the delivery of most Measure I, Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) projects.

To view SCAG's draft and/or final 2008 RTP, please go to SCAG's website: www.scag.ca.gov/rtp2008. It is expected to be posted in its entirety in January.

■ Transit/Commuter Rail Services receive approval for allocation of Prop 1B funds

SANBAG board gave unanimous approval to seek allocation of Proposition 1B Funds in the amount of \$15,973,969, to be distributed over several years. The following Lead Project Sponsors and allocation amounts were approved:

Barstow Area Transit	\$ 420,000
Morongo Basin Transit Authority	\$ 546,129
Mountain Area Regional Transit Authority	\$ 213,034
Omnitrans	\$ 6,931,683
Southern California Regional Rail Authority	\$ 5,500,000
Victor Valley Transit Authority	\$ 2,363,123

The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, approved by the voters as part of Proposition 1B, includes a program of funding in the amount of \$4 billion to be deposited in the Public Transportation Modernization, Improvement, and Service Enhancement Account. Of this amount, \$3.6 billion are to be made available to project sponsors in California for allocation to eligible public transportation capital projects, such as those listed above.

■ MCGMAP, Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan

A draft summary of the MCGMAP was given to the SANBAG board for their review. A public workshop will be held at the SANBAG offices on the day of the next board meeting, January 9. Exhibits can be viewed in the morning and a public presentation will be given in the afternoon from 4:00-6:00 p.m. For more information, please contact the SANBAG Public Information Office at (909) 884-8276.

SANBAG Safety Tip ...

Continue to be cautious when traveling on the I-10 Fwy through the Redlands area, as crews work through the nights putting finishing touches on landscaping, guard rails, restriping and more.

A pedestrian walkway has been installed at the construction site of the State Street/University Parkway Grade Crossing project in north San Bernardino.



Down the road ...

- January 9: SANBAG Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.
- January 9: Public Workshop on the MCGMAP, 4:00-6:00 pm (see article above)
- January 16: Administrative Committee, 11 a.m.
- Jan. 16: Plans & Programs Committee, 1 p.m.
- January 17: Major Projects Committee, 9 a.m.
- Jan. 18: Mountain-Desert Committee, 9 a.m.
- Late-January, Date TBA: Begin demolition of the 5th Street Bridge on I-215

I-10 Fwy opens lanes in both directions

Travelers on Interstate 10 in Redlands received an early holiday gift with the opening of the eastbound lane in November and the westbound lane in December, both between Ford Street and Orange Street.

"It's exciting to see how well the opening of the new eastbound lane is working," said San Bernardino County Supervisor Dennis Hansberger, a Redlands resident, at a ribbon-cutting ceremony held in Redlands on November 29. Hansberger said the new lane eased the bottleneck from the freeway interchange with Route 210 (the former Route 30) and saves him about 15 minutes each day on his commute. Hansberger and other elected officials spoke about the benefits of the overall freeway project and agreed that the widening would reduce traffic congestion for both commuters and freight movement.

"Interstate 10 is a trade corridor of national significance and the primary route for cargo headed from the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to Arizona, the Gulf Coast and all the way to the East Coast," stated Congressman Jerry Lewis, whom had just returned from Washington, D.C. and attended the ceremony.

Other elected officials speaking at the event included Senator Bob Dutton, Assemblyman Bill Emmerson, Caltrans District 8 Director Michael Perovich, SANBAG President and Mayor of Barstow Lawrence Dale, and Redlands Mayor Pro Tem Patricia Gilbreath.

Gilbreath praised the project as an excellent example of cooperative regional planning and support. The \$46.5 million project was financed with \$32 million in federal funds and \$14.5 million in Measure I funds. Measure I is the voter-approved half-cent sales tax for transportation improvements in San Bernardino County. "This project demonstrates the support by local residents to tax themselves to fund necessary regional transportation improvements," Gilbreath said.

During the two weeks following the celebration of the eastbound lane opening, construction crews removed the concrete barriers that lined the roadway and installed sign structures. They re-stripped the lanes, on-ramps and off-ramps within this 2.5-mile section of freeway. The final westbound lane was opened to traffic on December 12.

This marks the near-end of the I-10 widening project, which



Participating in the I-10 Freeway expansion celebration were (l-r) San Bernardino County Supervisor Dennis Hansberger, SANBAG President and Mayor of Barstow Lawrence Dale, Congressman Jerry Lewis, Assemblyman Bill Emmerson, Redlands Mayor Pro Tem Pat Gilbreath, Senator Bob Dutton, Caltrans Director Michael Perovich, Redlands Mayor Jon Harrison, Highland Mayor Ross Jones, and SANBAG Executive Director Deborah Barmack.

started in November 2005. The project involved several stages of work: Rehabilitating the shoulders on both sides of the freeway, widening and strengthening 11 bridges, paving the new lanes, building a concrete median barrier, and building soundwalls along the freeway corridor. Landscaping work is still in progress.

This project is the second in a series of mobility improvements planned for San Bernardino County's East Valley. An eastbound truck-climbing lane between Redlands and Yucaipa was completed in mid-2005, and final design is underway now to add a westbound lane in this same area. Construction started in September to widen the Live Oak Canyon Road interchange in Yucaipa. In addition, preliminary engineering and environmental studies began this fall for the addition of carpool lanes on I-10 between Ontario and Redlands. SANBAG also is continuing environmental studies for the extension of passenger train service between San Bernardino and Redlands, with stations planned in downtown Redlands, the University of Redlands and other locations along the route.

"It is clear that SANBAG is continuing to deliver projects, and it's exciting to see how the I-10 widening project will help improve mobility for our residents and for the goods movement industry," said SANBAG Executive Director Deborah Barmack.